

Master Planning News

Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park

Peshtigo River State Forest

October 1, 2002 Newsletter

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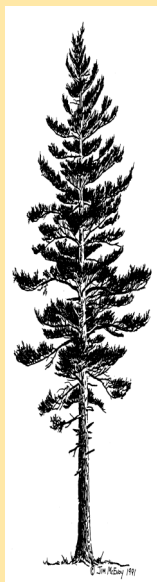
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Peshtigo River State Forest Master Plan First Public Meetings Successful

DNR staff conducted two introductory public meetings about master planning for the new Peshtigo River State Forest on August 6, 2002 at the Stephenson Town Hall and on August 7, 2002 at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, Green Bay. DNR

representatives John Lubbers and Dan Rogers gave a presentation about public involvement in the master planning process to large audiences at both locations. At the Stephenson Town Hall ninety-one people showed up. Bay Beach auditorium held about seventy. Afterward

Lubbers and Rogers answered a few questions from the audience and then spent about an hour talking to guests one-on-one. "We are pleased with the full attendance and very active public participation, and feel it shows how much the public cares about these special resources", they said.

Peshtigo River State Forest Hires Staff

Sara Pearson has been hired to assist the property manager of the Peshtigo River State Forest, Wisconsin's newest state forest. She will be responsible for the enforcement and recreation programs on the property and will participate in the master planning process. Sara is a 1998 graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and has worked for the past seven years as an LTE Ranger at Mirror Lake State Park, near Wisconsin Dells.

Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park Manager Hired



MAGGIE KAILHOFFER

CRIVITZ. We are pleased to announce the hiring of Maggie Kailhofer, Manager

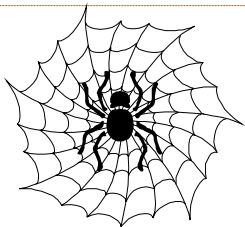
of Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park on July 14, 2002. Maggie has worked for the Wisconsin State Parks program for the past six years. Previously, she was Park Manager at Potawatomi State Park in Door County. Maggie has a BS degree in Natural Resource Management from UW -Stevens Point and has completed the State Park manager trainee program. She also

has experience as a manager at Brule River State Forest, Ranger at Potawatomi and Hartman Creek State Parks and Wilderness Ranger for the US Forest Service on the Superior National Forest.

Maggie is familiar with the Crivitz area since her family has owned a vacation home in Marinette County for a number of years.



*Seymour Rapids
Fly Fishing Zone
Peshtigo River State Forest*



We're on the Web!

This newsletter now available at:

www.dnr.state.wi.us



*Fall Colors Illuminate the
Woods Near Huber Lake*

Comments and Questions -What the Public is Saying

A random sample of questions and comments we've received so far:

"Please plan hiking and skiing trails that go somewhere, for miles through the woods, that connect sections of the forest, not just loops that take you back to the parking lot, so we can go point to point."

"We would love horse trails, horse and wagon driving trails, horse camping." "Relocate the snowmobile trails through the park to

replace Ranch road trail because of the traffic on Ranch road, it being the only entrance and exit to the park".

"Is wilderness designated anywhere?"

"Will DNR reduce the number of roads in the Park or Forest?"

"Will DNR maintain the property?" "Who has the jurisdiction over the public behavior on the water?"

"Who owns the land near the shoreline?"

"Will DNR make any changes on snowmobile trails?"

"Will you, (DNR) consult with various user groups to get advice and help when you will develop features of the park?" *These and all public input will be saved for future decision-making.*

State Park and State Forest Offices Now Open

With the hiring of critical staff both Governor Thompson State Park and the Peshtigo River State Forest have official, though temporary, headquarters. Maggie Kailhofer, state park manager and Sara Pearson state forest

assistant manager have established a shared headquarters in the old lodge building of the former Woods Lake Resort - now Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park.

Eventually, new permanent headquarters will be built.

ADDRESSES

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Visioning Next Step in Master Planning

Now that master planning has been initiated for both Governor Thompson State Park and Peshtigo River State Forest, its time to get down to some real planning work. Since our planning process creates a master plan starting from the most general information and works toward specific details of property management and development of facilities, we must establish a starting point. It is called a **Vision and Goals Statement**.

The vision statement tells in broad generalities the

purpose of the property. It is coupled with GOALS, describing conditions that must be achieved to create the vision. We're writing two master plans, so we will be creating vision and goal statements for both the forest and for the park. We realize it may be hard to get started thinking in these terms, so we'll begin by giving you drafts of vision and goal statements that we think would make a good starting point. Then, it's your turn.

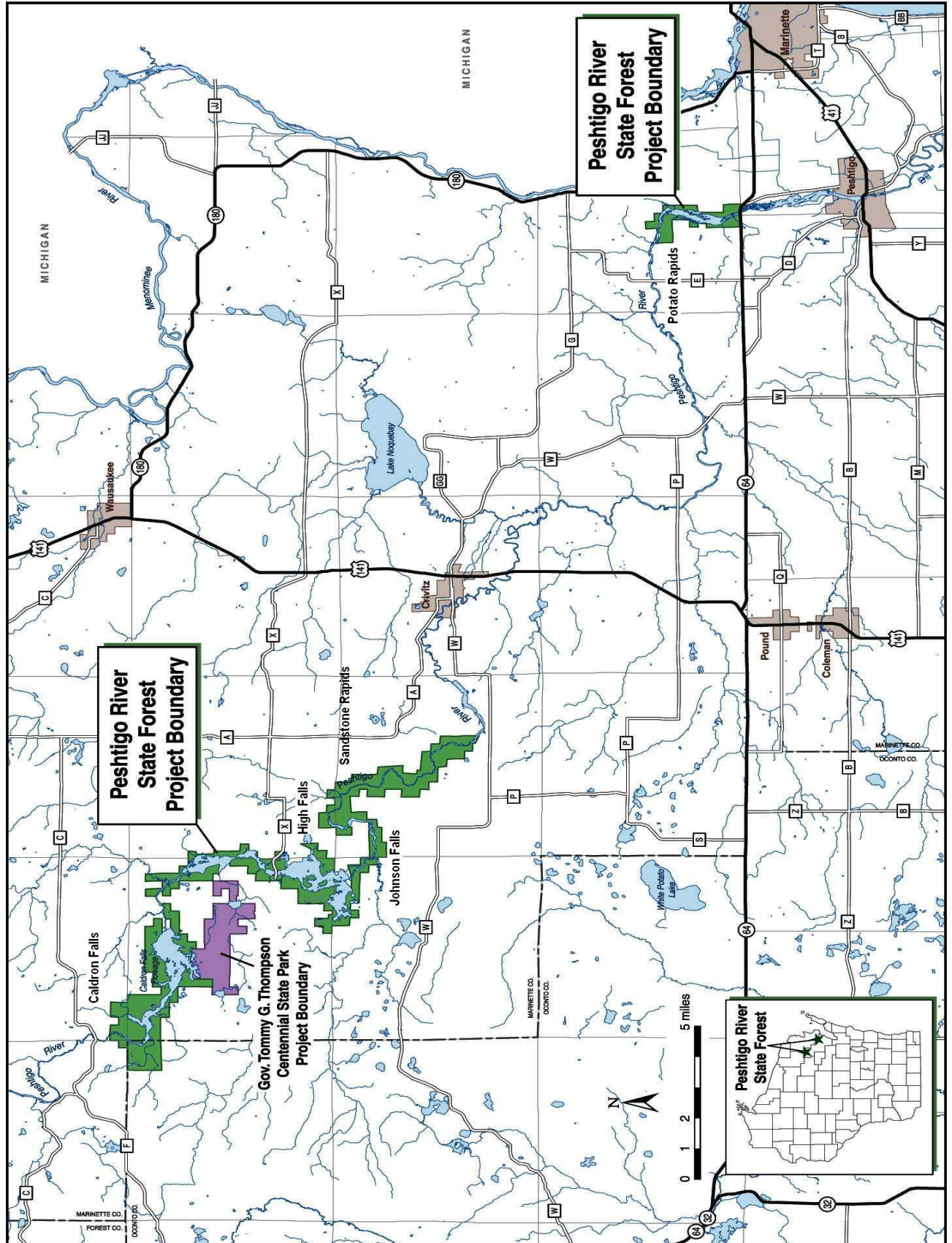
Look for a special leaflet in the mail later this fall. We'll

be using it to show everyone what we think a vision and goal statement ought to look like for each property.

We'll be asking you to tell us whether you agree with the drafts and if not, what you think they should say. Then, using your input, the planning teams will sit down and decide on final drafts of vision and goal statements. We will publish this and other planning news in the next newsletter. Public meetings will be held again in January 2003, where we will discuss our Visions and Goals for both properties.

Peshtigo River State Forest - Locator Map

January, 2002





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Peshtigo River State Forest to Stay Open

Many people have asked whether the State Forest property is open to public access. The answer is that yes it is open for public access, including hunting. All boat landings are open for Fall fishing, too. Under terms of state acquisition, during the master planning period, the public use of the over

9,200 acres of recreational land will be managed the same way as when WPS owned it. In fact, not all the land has been acquired by the state yet, but it will all be open regardless.

This is in contrast to Governor Thompson State Park, which remains closed to public access, except for Boat Landing #13. There

are no public facilities available at the State Park yet. Therefore, it remains closed till further notice.

If you have questions about access to these properties contact Sara Pearson, Peshtigo River State Forest (715) 787-3965 or Maggie Kailhofer, Governor Thompson State Park at (715) 757-3979.

Additional Master Planning Information

"Why try to plan two major properties at once?" you might ask. Since Governor Thompson State Park and Peshtigo River State Forest are directly adjacent, there is a lot to be gained. Both properties will be managed by DNR, though they will have some different uses and

regulations. However, the land ownership and the natural resources of both sites will be uninterrupted. If you cross from the park over into the forest, you probably won't even notice a difference. We call this effect a *seamless boundary*. The vegetation will probably even look the same.

There may be fewer developed recreational facilities in the forest, but both properties will be open to the public. And both will be beautiful. The wild shorelines will remain undeveloped and the forest will be productive, yet sustainable. *Be sure to let us know what you think about these ideas.*

About Master Planning with the WDNR...

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Strategic Plan calls for encouraging public involvement and providing for outdoor recreation. We accomplish these goals in a variety of ways, but one of the best ways is through the integrated efforts of internal and external partners in the master planning process. We're very interested in what YOU have to say.



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